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impossible to anyone but a child the observations and reflections upon life of the writer and her intimate girl companions of the same age. In this volume all the "secrets," continuously discussed among themselves and sedulously hidden from others, particularly the older generation, are revealed.

Naturally it is just those things of which young girls know least and in regard to which they are not expected to know anything at all that most completely dominate their attention.

What they know and what they do not know, together with all the devious ways in which they sought answers to questions regarded as improper, but in regard to which they had a very natural curiosity, casts a curious light upon the lack of insight and understanding of the older generation.

We see in this diary, as Freud observes, the dawn of love, feeling out toward its first objects.

Above all, we are shown how the mystery of the sexual life first presses itself vaguely on the attention, and then takes entire possession of the growing intelligence, so that the child suffers under the load of secret knowledge but gradually becomes enabled to shoulder the burden. Of all these things we have a description at once so charming, so serious, and so artless, that it cannot fail to be of supreme interest to educationists and psychologists.

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Old Age Support of Women Teachers. Department of Research of the Women's Educational and Industrial Union, Lucile Eaves, Ph.D., Director, Boston, 1921. Pp. 100, with appendix 122.

Dr. Eaves conceived the idea of a co-operative research which might be carried out on a uniform plan in any part of the country. She has posed the question *How are self-supporting women making provision for their old age?*

In this study of one hundred and fifteen retired Boston school teachers she has demonstrated how a study on this line may be carried out. The monograph is so admirable that it will surely inspire other investigations in other places. Besides being accurate and thorough it has the grace to be interesting and sympathetic—a human document.

The findings were quite other than I anticipated—fewer losses from unsound investments, more legacies, more money-making part-time

occupations. Who would have expected that three-fifths of these teachers live in about the same circumstances as before retirement? The figures bring out dramatically how upsetting has been the great change in price levels to the provision for old age made by the city and by the teachers themselves.

Some of the questions Dr. Eaves raises open vistas into the society of the future, e.g.,

Would it be reasonable to maintain that, during the period of gainful employment, a self-supporting woman should make the portion of her old-age provision which a well-planned life would assign to those years?

Is it probable that the unmarried women of the family will accept an increasing burden of responsibility for the care of its dependents?

Is it just and desirable that equality in economic responsibilities accompany equality in opportunities for gainful employment?

Granting that such increased social responsibility will be assumed by women who from choice or necessity remain unmarried, is it true that such altruistic services may assist in counteracting social and personal evils which are beginning to show themselves in modern highly developed communities?

What are the forms of investment found most satisfactory for teachers in different parts of the country? Is the conservatism of the Massachusetts teachers a typical characteristic of self-supporting women?

One finishes the reading with the reflection "If this is not material for sociology, nothing is." It is to be hoped that this model study will fire able young women graduates in different parts of the country to do something of the like in their local field. The light that a number of such studies would yield might be of incalculable benefit to the future of self-supporting women.

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Rural Social Organization. By EDWIN L. EARP. New York: Abingdon Press, 1921. Pp. 144. \$1.00.

This book is intended chiefly for use by those preparing for the rural ministry. It is rather difficult to see, however, how it will aid them in their work. It contains neither the facts necessary to make them appreciate the relation of the church to rural life nor any definite matter regarding the actual processes of organizing the rural community. It may serve to call the attention of some young ministers to the fact that the church has obligations to the community, but it is not likely to inspire them to undertake the fulfilment of these obligations because of its